

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.
(Late The Hall & House C. Co., Ltd.)
HALF-YEARLY CLEARANCE SALE.

MONDAY NEXT AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S OUTFITTING DEPARTMENTS GENTLEMEN'S TAILORING AND OUTFITTING DEPARTMENTS.

See Special Circular.

Notice.—Compulsory Clearance Sale of High Class and other Furniture, Furnishings, Jewellery, etc., at view of extensive alterations to premises.
This important sale commences on Tuesday, July 1st. For further particulars see future announcements.

HONGKONG TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.
(Late The Hall & House C. Co., Ltd.)
Hongkong, 6th June, 1890.



BY APPOINTMENT.
A. S. WATSON & COMPANY LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1844.

MANUFACTURERS OF ARRATED WATER.

OUR ARRATED WATER MANUFACTORY is replete with the best Machinery, employing all the latest improvements in the trade.

The greatest attention has been paid to appliances for ensuring purity in the water supply, to secure which we have added a Condenser capable of supplying with 3,000 gallons of distilled water per day, and are in a position to compete in quality with the best English Makers. Our Sweet Water can be supplied anywhere.

The purest ingredients only are used, and the strictest care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

LARGE BOMBAY "SODAS"

We continue to supply large bottles of Soda Water, from Extra Quality, to those of our Customers who prefer to have them to the ordinary size.

COAST PORT ORDERS

Wholesale and retail orders are dispatched by first steamer leaving after noon of each day.

For Coast Ports, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Export when required in good order.

Counterfeit Order Books supplied on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is "DISPENSARY, H. N. & CO., Ltd." And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following List of Waters always kept ready in Stock:

PURE ARRATED WATER
SODA WATER
LEMONADE
POTASH WATER
SELTZER WATER
LITHIA WATER
SARSAPILLA WATER
TONIC WATER
GINGER ALE
GINGERADE

No Credit given for Bottles that look dirty, or glass, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Arrated Water, as such Bottles are never used again.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.
Hongkong, China, and Manila. [2-18]

At Belapur, on the 9th inst., the wife of Hiram Vickers, 23rd March 1884, died, aged 18 years.

The Daily Press.
HONGKONG, JUNE 10TH, 1890.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday afternoon His Excellency the Acting Governor read a telegram from Sir John Walsingham to the effect that representations respecting the proposed increase of the duty on opium at Canton had been made to the Chinese Government, by Sir Robert Hall as well as by the Minister himself, and that the project had been abandoned. It was a foregone conclusion that when the matter was brought to the notice of the Acting Governor the scheme to establish a squeeze-fund would be reversed, and it is satisfactory to find that the action of the Minister and the Inspector-General of Customs was so prompt. The affair, however, has shown what sort of a man Sir Robert Hall is, and how necessary it is to keep a close watch on his policy with respect to foreign trade. Although his audacious attempt to establish a squeeze on opium has happily come to nought, it is to be feared that other articles of commerce will not escape so easily. For the protection of trade generally it is desirable that a determined effort should at once be made to secure the recognition of the transit pass system.

How very far the Chinese yet are from possessing the first notions of military discipline or of knowledge how to establish it, the letter of the correspondent of the M. C. Daily News in South Formosa, elsewhere published, sufficiently exemplifies. Raw material for soldiers abounds in the Central Kingdom, but the manner in which it is handled is enough to convert any class of men into utter barbarians. Ill fed, uncared for, and seldom paid, no wonder that they "brave" are discontented, small marvel that they prey on the civil population and are accordingly regarded as only an alternative source to the brigands or rebels against whom they are marched. The scenes described at Anping by the correspondent above named are sickening and scandalous. The instance in which two men, "on the job," came with bows to bury still living victims to want of care on the part of the officials, and calmly squatted down to watch for the last flicker of breath in the unfortunate before commencing their task, is grim enough, but indignation deepens into horror when we read of soldiers forcing the lid of his coffin on a feebly struggling occupant, who has yet strength to wait out a prayer for some tea. It speaks little for the humanity of the Chinese bystanders that they actually looked on contentedly while the coffin lid was nailed down upon the expiring but still conscious victim. This practice, it appears, according to the correspondent, has arisen out of a custom, which demands that when a soldier dies the officer of his company should draw five taels for the burial expenses, of which three or four dollars are handed over to his

comrade. Money is so scarce a commodity with these ill paid wretches that they are eager to finger these few coins, and the miserable soldier is accordingly trotted out of the way as soon as possible. It is quite possible that some soldiers whose cases are far from hopeless are in this way doomed to death through the cupidity of their comrades and the carelessness of the officers. Of course the gross inhumanity of the soldiers is to be deplored, but can anything better be expected from men treated as they are, with no good example from their officers, and with no opportunities of advancement? The Chinese soldier is, in short, no better than a coolie trained to fight. Habits of discipline he has not. He is not even taught to take a pride in his appearance, has no self-respect, is regarded with dislike and contempt by the public, and is used by the officials as a machine not more valuable than a beast of burden. The army is practically without a commissariat, without a medical service, and without, except in one or two corps, even an ambulance. It is little use supplying such soldiers as these with arms of precision, for there is no likelihood that they will take any pride in them or waste energy in cleaning them. Until China feeds, pays, and clothes her soldiers properly she cannot expect to teach them discipline, and until she has raised up a staff of really competent officers she will not, even with the aid of European instructors, be able to maintain discipline. There need therefore be little apprehension of an effective Chinese army taking the field against a foreign foe, for in almost all essentials to success the Chinese are little better organized or drilled than in 1858-60.

The P. & O. extra steamer *Bridget*, which left here on the 21st April, arrived home on the 7th inst.

A Chinese girl of 12 years of age was drowned in the Bowring Canal on Sunday morning whilst bathing.

The steamer *Phoen* left Shanghai on the 2nd inst. with a large boiler, machinery, and plant for a tea factory at Kienloong, and is expected to arrive on or about the 17th inst.

The Agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.) inform us that the S. S. Co. steamer *Chien-hing*, which left Port Darwin for this port on the 5th inst., is expected to arrive on or about the 17th inst.

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The *Macao Independents* has temporarily suspended publication.

There were 1,841 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 165 were Europeans.

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